

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 00485 161955Z

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ACTION EUR-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 EB-03 INR-05 SP-02 SIL-01

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FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 317

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 1551

AMMBASSY BELGRELSWGUSLG

RUFHJEPXAMEMBASSY BERLIN 354

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 0485

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ETRD, EAGR, COMECON, RO

SUBJECT: SOAMES' VISIT TO BUCHAREST

REFS (A) EC BRUSSELS 153, (B) EC BRUSSELS 289, (C) BUCHAREST 279

1. SOAMES' CHEF DE CABINET HANNAY,WHO PARTICIPATED IN SIR CHRISTOPHER'S

VISIT TO BUCHAREST JANUARY 7-9, HAS GIVEN US THE FOLLOWING REPORT ON THE TRIP. (NOTE: HANNAY SPECIFICALLY ASKED THAT CARE BE TAKEN TO INSURE THAT THE FACT THAT THE COMMISSION HAS PROVIDED US WITH A BRIEFING ON THE TRIP NOT BE REVEALED TO EASTERN EUROPEANS, AND IN PARTICULAR TO THE ROMANIANS. HANNAY EMPHASIZED, AT SOME LENGTH, THAT WHILE THE COMMISSION WAS PREPARED TO PROVIDE SOME INFORMATION TO THE U.S. ON THE TRIP, REVELATION THAT THEY HAD DONE SO COULD HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT ON EC-ROMANIAN RELATIONS).

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PAGE 02 EC BRU 00485 161955Z

HANNAY CONFIRMED THAT WHILE SIR CHRISTOPHER WAS IN BUCHAREST

HE TALKED WITH PRIME MINISTER CEAUSESCU, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN TRADE PATAN, AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER MACOVESCU.

2. SOAMES' SPEECH: ON JANUARY 8, SOAMES SPOKE BEFORE THE ASSOCIATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS ON THE SUBJECT OF "DEVELOPMENT OF EUROPEAN ECONOMIC RELATIONS FOLLOWING THE HELSINKI DECLARATION". IN A REVIEW OF CONTACTS BETWEEN THE EC AND CEMA, SIR CHRISTOPHER NOTED THAT THE EUROPEAN SIDE WAS STILL AWAITING A REPLY TO ITS INVITATION FOR FURTHER TALKS IN BRUSSELS WHICH WAS TENDERED IN MOSCOW IN FEBRUARY 1975. SOAMES SAID "WE SEE NO REASON WHY THE DEVELOPMENT OF BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND ANY MEMBER OF CEMA SHOULD HINDER OR BE HINDERED BY THE DEVELOPMENT OF GOOD WORKING RELATIONS WITH SEMA AS SUCH". POINTING OUT THE DIFFERENCE IN THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE EC COMMISSION AND CEMA, SOAMES SAID THAT THE COMMUNITY PARTICULARLY WISHED TO ESTABLISH AND DEVELOP RELATIONS WITH THE MEMBER STATES IN THE TRADE POLICY AREA.

3. ROMANIANS ON EC/CEMA RELATIONS: HANNAY SAID IT WAS CLEAR THE ROMANIANS SHARED SIR CHRISTOPHER'S VIEW THAT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE EC AND CEMA MEMBER STATES WERE NOT INCOMPATIBLE WITH RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO ORGANIZATIONS. IT WAS THE ROMANIANS INTENTION, HANNAY SAID, HOWEVER, TO ATTEMPT TO RESOLVE THE QUESTION OF ORGANIZATION-TO-ORGANIZATION RELATIONS BEFORE MOVING TOWARD BILATERAL TRADE TALKS WITH THE EC COMMISSION. THE ROMANIANS INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD CONTINUE TO PRESS FOR A MANDATE PERMITTING THE CEMA SECRETARIAT TO NEGOTIATE NO MORE THAN A FRAMEWORK OR SKELETON AGREEMENT WITH THE EC COMMISSION, WHICH WOULD RECOGNIZE THE RIGHT OF INDIVIDUAL CEMA STATES TO NEGOTIATE TRADE RELATIONS WITH THE EC COMMISSION DIRECTLY. HANNAY COMMENTED THAT THE LINE THE ROMANIANS ARE NOW TALKING SEEMS TO REPRESENT A CHANGE FROM THEIR POSITION OF SEVERAL MONTHS AGO, WHEN THE COMMISSION HAD THE IMPRESSION THAT THE ROMANIANS WERE PROBABLY PREPARED TO GO AHEAD WITH A BILATERAL AGREEMENT WITH THE EC AT AN EARLY DATE WITHOUT AWAITING THE OUTCOME OF DISCUSSIONS WITHIN CEMA. HE SAID THE QUESTION OF WHAT ROMANIANS WOULD DO IF THEY FAILED TO EXTRACT A PERMISSIVE POSITION IN THE CEMA MANDATE ON BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH THE EC WAS "MOOT"

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PAGE 03 EC BRU 00485 161955Z

AT THIS POINT.

4. TEXTILE TALKS: HANNAY INFORMED US THAT THE ROMANIANS FORMALLY ACCEPTED THE COMMISSION'S OFFER OF LAST FALL TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS FOR A TEXTILE AGREEMENT UNDER ARTICLE 4 OF THE MULTI-FIBER AGREEMENT. THESE TALKS ARE EXPECTED TO BEGIN SHORTLY. (A SIMILAR OFFER WAS MADE SIMULTANEOUSLY TO HUNGARY AND POLAND BUT NEITHER HAS AS YET RESPONDED). BOTH THE ROMANIANS AND THE

COMMISSION, HANNAY EMPHASIZED, WISH TO AVOID THE APPEARANCE THAT THESE TEXTILE DISCUSSIONS ARE RELATED IN ANY WAY TO THE BROADER QUESTION OF EC-CEMA DISCUSSIONS.

5. HANNAY MENTIONED THAT THE COMMISSION WAS CURRENTLY DISCUSSING THE POSSIBILITY OF MAKING SKIMMED MILK POWDER AVAILABLE TO THE ROMANIANS AT CONCESSIONARY PRICES, BUT DID NOT ELABORATE. GREENWALD

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